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PATENT APPLICATION

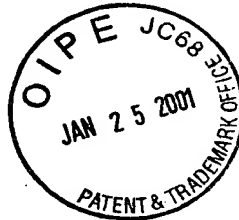
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Christian LAROQUE et al

Appln. No.: 09/605,881

Filed: June 29, 2000



Attorney Docket Q59841

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

For: METHOD OF MONITORING THE USE OF A CHARGEABLE DYNAMIC
SIGNALING PORT OF AN INTER-EXCHANGE TRUNK

DECLARATION

I, Michèle Bruneel, hereby declare that:

1. I am employed by Alcatel, the owner of the above application.
2. The two inventors of the above application are Christian Laroque and Lahcen Bennai.
3. Both of the inventors were employed by Alcatel Business Systems, a subsidiary of Alcatel.
4. On May 3, 2000, I sent the Declaration and Power of Attorney to Mr. Xavier De Fay, Alcatel Business Systems, for execution by the two inventors. Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of the relevant correspondence. Mr. Laroque had already reviewed an exact French translation of the present application. The Declaration was returned to me with the signature of only Lahcen Bennai, and I was advised that Mr. Christian Laroque was no longer employed by Alcatel Business Systems, and I was also advised of his new home address in Germany.

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6. On May 29, 2000, Mr. Christian Laroque sent me an email concerning another U.S. patent application (U.S. Appl. No. 09/605,434) in which he is refusing to sign the Declaration and Power of Attorney due to a dispute with Alcatel over the payment of bonuses to departed employees. In this same email, Mr. Laroque refers to another case where he had received a request directly from Alcatel Business Systems for execution of papers, and indicates that he is also refusing to sign and return the Declaration and Power of Attorney for that case. That other case is the present application, No. 09/605,881.

7. On November 14, 2000, I forwarded a complete copy of the Appl. No. 09/605,881 to M. Laroque along with a Declaration and Power of Attorney. A copy of the accompanying letter and a Post Office register evidencing that the letter was sent is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.

8. On November 30, 2000, I sent a further complete copy of Appl. No. 09/605,881 and a Declaration and Power of Attorney to Mr. Laroque. A copy of the accompanying letter and a Post Office Register evidencing that the letter was sent is attached hereto as Exhibit 6.

9. On December 15, 2000, we received an email (copy attached as Exhibit 7) from M. Laroque stating that he had received the application papers but, as he had indicated earlier, he refuses to sign the papers.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the

United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: January 3, 2001

By: 
Michèle Bruneel